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## MEMORANDUM

TO: Superintendents, Principals and Curriculum Coordinators  
FROM: Armando Vilaseca, Secretary *AV*  
SUBJECT: Volunteers Sought for SBAC Field Test  
DATE: June 28, 2013

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As many of you are aware, our new SBAC assessment needs to conduct a field test to ensure its readiness for the spring of 2015. Vermont is requesting a waiver from the US ED that if granted, will ensure that we avoid double testing our students during the 2013/14 school year. The reasons for not supporting double-testing in a single year are obvious; we do not want to have students take two separate assessments and require schools to interrupt their learning time to administer two separate tests.

We need school districts to volunteer all of their 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> graders (if applicable) to take the SBAC field test this spring. We need approximately 10,000+ students to support the field test. If a district decides to volunteer, the *entire* school district has to participate; entire SUs can also volunteer. If you are selected, your school district will *not* have to take the NECAP assessment in the fall. Remaining students in the state would take the NECAP as part of the federal/state accountability process. Since the field test will not be accepted as an accountability measure, your district's accountability will be based on the 2012/13 NECAP results. The SBAC field test is computer-based, so schools need to be "tech ready" in order to volunteer. We are not yet sure of the testing window, but we anticipate it being long enough to allow for computers to be used by multiple test-takers.

If you are interested in volunteering please contact me via email only at [armando.vilaseca@state.vt.us](mailto:armando.vilaseca@state.vt.us) by August 1, 2013. Please include the number of students to be tested in your district. We will be making decisions soon thereafter and priority will be given to those schools who are the first to volunteer.